CKET NO.: 214890US2S

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RE APPLICATION OF

HIROSHI WATANABE, ET AL.

: EXAMINER: PHAM, H.

SERIAL NO: 09/973,019

FILED: OCTOBER 10, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 2814

FOR:

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING

THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 6, 2002, Applicants provisionally elect without traverse Group I, Claims 1-7, directed to a semiconductor device. Further, Applicants provisionally elect embodiment 2 as shown in Figures 12-20. All Claims 1-7 are directed to and read on the elected species of Figures 12-20. Applicants make this election based on the understanding that Applicants are not prejudiced against filing one or more divisional applications that cover the non-elected claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Group I drawn to Claims 1-7 and the elected species of Figures 12-20 be subject to a full examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No.: 214890US-2S

OBLON SPIVAK McClelland MAIER NEUSTADT P.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/973,019

Applicants: Hiroshi WATANABE, et al.

Filing Date: October 10, 2001

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF

MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Group Art Unit: 2814 Examiner: H. Pham

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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